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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/844,665	04/30/2001	Seuk-Jin Yun	P56374	8990

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EXAMINER
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NGHIEM, MICHAEL P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2861

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/844,665

Applicant(s)

YUN, SEUK-JIN

Examiner

Michael P Nghiem

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7 and 12-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                      4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, is the contact portion (line 6) of the ink cartridge different from the ones on line 1, 2?

Claim 1, the contact portion (line 8) lacks antecedent basis. Which one?

Claim 2, is the elastic spring member (line 2) different from each of the one in claim 1 (line 5)?

The remaining claims are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, and 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Buican (US 5,627,577).

Buican discloses all the claimed features of the invention including:

- an electrical contacting apparatus (Fig. 16) in an ink jet printer, for contacting the contact portions (column 5, lines 30-33) of an ink cartridge (40) with the contact portions (85) of a printed circuit board (80) installed on a carrier (54) in order to electrically connect the ink cartridge to the carrier on which the ink cartridge is mounted (Fig. 16), the apparatus comprising:
  - a plurality of spring elastic members (130, 131) corresponding to the contact portions of the ink cartridge (column 5, lines 30-32), wherein each of the spring elastic members comprises:
    - a contact portion (130) which contacts a contact portion of the ink cartridge (Fig. 16);
    - a base (131) having one end electrically connected to the printed circuit

board (column 5, line 33); and

- a connection portion (connection between 130 and 131) connected to the contact portion and the base for providing an elastic restoration force between the contact portion and the base (column 5, lines 30-33),

- a housing (55) for receiving a spring elastic member and maintaining the elastic force of the contact portion of the received spring elastic member with respect to the base of the received spring elastic member (column 5, lines 23-26),

- each one of said plurality of elastic members has an equal amount of elastic force as compared to other ones of said plurality of elastic members (column 5, lines 29-30),

- said connection portion of each of said plurality a of elastic members being substantially U-shaped (shape of 130).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 3-7 and 12-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Claims 16-18 are allowed.

***Reasons For Allowance***

5. The combination as claimed wherein the housing has a space for receiving the spring elastic member, and a window for exposing the spring elastic member to the outside is formed on an opening of the housing on the side of the space (claim 3) or one end of the base is electrically connected to the printed circuit board by soldering (claims 4, 16) or the spring elastic member is formed of phosphor bronze plated with nickel, and the contact portion of the spring elastic member is further plated with gold (claims 5, 16) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior arts of record.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Nghiem whose telephone number is (703) 306-3445. An inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist at (703) 308-0956.



Michael Nghiem

December 10, 2001